BUFFALO: WHY NOT GET READY IN TIME for that great trip NEXT JUNE?

The FREEMASON AND FEZ.

IN THE INTEREST OF MASONRY, THE MYSTIC SHRINE AND THE ORDER OF ISIS.

JNO. WESTLEY GEIGER, Editor and Publisher.

VOLUME VII. MARCH, 1899. No. 3.

WATCH THIS SPACE.

THE

Camels are Going,

And the crowd is BOOKING

FOR BUFFALO.

IMPERIAL COUNCIL TRIP.

—GET INTO—

The Solid Iowa Train

Write me if you *expect* to go—I'll keep you posted.

ONE FARE PROMISED.

SIDE TRIPS GALORE.

One to The Atlantic Coast Sure.

Nobles of the Shrine Go.
Daughters of Isis Go.
Masons Generally Go.
Everybody Go.

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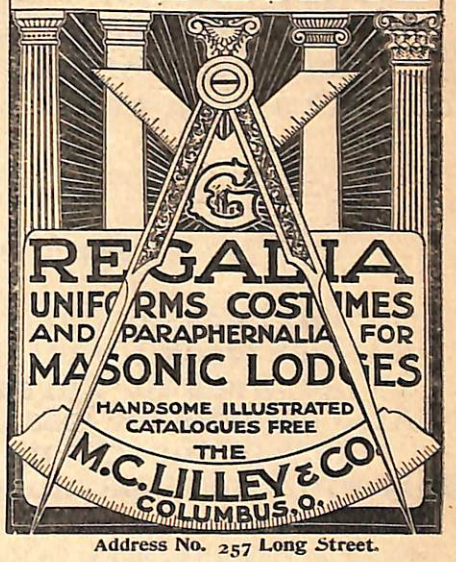

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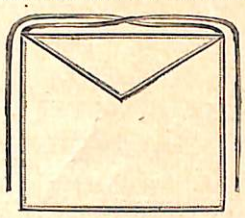

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SAY:- Don't we want a live Masonic Journal in Iowa? If so, help us, by sending us all the HALF RATE subscriptions you can

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JNO. WESTLEY GEIGER, Marion, Iowa, Editor and Publisher.

VOLUME VII. CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, MARCH, 1899. NUMBER 3.

ANNIVERSARY ADDRESS.

BY E. W. WEEKS, GUTHRIE CENTER, IA.

Worthy Matron, Sisters and Brothers of Gleaners' Chapter, No. 109:

Masonry is a system, teaching symbolically piety, morality, science, charity and self discipline.

The membership of Freemasonry must possess a faith and trust in one God, in Divine revelation and obedience to the Ten Commandments, and must be of good report before all men.

During the world's dark periods, Masonry has preserved the vital spark of the true faith, and has always been a choice custodian of Jehovah's will concerning mankind, as manifested in the Book of the Law.

We to-night can rejoice that we behold the operation and influence of this magnificent Fraternity, brought to a high state of perfection, grand in its proportions, wonderful in its influence and power.

Its purposes understood, its influence recognized and considered in all great moral movements, its antagonisms melting away under the gentle warmth of hearts touched with benevolence and good will.

The origin of Masonry is shrouded in the twilight of history, Masonic record fades into legend and tradition. It is an ally of Jehovah's in holding humanity to himself. It came unto the world with symmetry, harmony and humanity,

Universal as need,
Terrestial as sunlight,

uniting men of the most opposite tenets, of the most distant countries, and the most contradictory opinions, in one indissoluble bond of affection, so that in every nation a Mason finds a friend, and in every clime a home.

There are levels and planes of primary truth, of a common faith and hope upon which all can stand, above tribal, national and political differences, where the atmosphere is rare and clear, and the common good and need of all mankind is plainly manifest.

None can differ upon the broad proposition, "The Fatherhood of God, and Brotherhood of Mankind," or that the best rule of action is, "Do unto others as ye would that they should do to you."

Upon these heights of primary truth does Masonry take its members. There in the plain manifestation of humanity's common need and common good, discordant elements are forbidden, and harmony and unity prevails.

I stood on the top of one of Colorado's mountains. The air was rare, clear and still. Away below was the timber with its shade and gloom; away to the northeast was the large city, with its smoke, its trains, its turmoil, its business. Along the valleys and plains could be seen the villages and stations, farm houses, fields of grain and highways. To our right and below was a bank of clouds, from underneath of which extended, like threads of silk, the down pour of rain, which hid from view the earth; in that shadow was commotion and storm, from which could be seen occasionally gleams of cruel lightning, while upon the left from the valley there extended upward a thin column of smoke from a few charcoal pits. Upward it extended like a blue ribbon until it reached the atmosphere of equal density and weight, where it banked itself.

In looking at it, how beautiful it appeared! With its background of evergreens, it hung in air a cushion of topaz. It was a wonderful place, a wonderful vision above the commotion of nature, the activity of business and turmoil of life, there to stand above them all and contemplate in that quietude and height your God, your brethren and your destiny.

So Masonry is the mountain heights from which mankind may see the valleys through which he has come, and catch some glimpses of the country through which he is to pass, and bask in the sunlight of peace and harmony.

Notwithstanding the great antiquity of Masonry and its beneficent influence in the Old World, its greatest growth has been in the United States. In this country, where conscience sought relief from bigotry, oppression and ignorance, Masonry had found its richest field and greatest development. Here in our beloved land where good, usefulness and growth are the magic or test words applied to every enterprise, this great fraternity has won its greatest victories and acquired its greatest membership.

Woman has always been forbidden membership in the order, for what reason or upon what theory history does not disclose. It may have been anticipated that by benefitting man, woman by reason of her close relation thereto would share therein. Her benefits in Masonry remained in this doubtful or secondary state until A. D. 1850, when our departed brother, Robert Morris, sought to confer upon her more direct benefits by bestowing upon the wife, daughter, widow, mother and sister of a Mason certain signs whereby they could be known and recognized among Masons as such. These signs, together with what was known as the histories of the five heroines of the order, were to be communicated freely to all Masons and their eligible relations, under the name of Eastern Star Degrees of Adoptive Masonry. For fifteen years good Brother Morris visited lodges, lecturing and communicating freely the signs and degrees. The system did not prove practical. The term "Adoptive Masonry" was objectionable. In some states edicts were issued prohibiting the use of Masonic halls for the purpose of conferring the degrees.

The taste that woman was thus permitted to have of the good of the Order could not be stilled. The cravings of woman for growth and usefulness produced results. The unselfishness of Masonry at once sought to provide a way for the benefits of the Order to be more directly applied. A practical system of organization was devised conforming closely to Masonic methods; a portion of the old name "Eastern Star" was retained. Masonic halls were thrown open to its meetings. The craft everywhere extended their sympathy and support, and recognized in it a new and powerful adjunct.

The first successful Chapter under the new system was instituted in Michigan in the year A. D. 1867, under what was known as Tatem's Ritual. The good work soon spread into New York, New Jersey and many of the other states. Grand Chapters followed. Its growth was not as rapid as it might have been had more uniformity existed in its Ritualistic work. With that persistency for good so natural in woman, and with the aid and assistance of the bright minds of Masonry, who craved its greatest success, its present beautiful Ritual was finally evolved—a thing of grace, beauty and beneficence.

While the growth of the Order may not be termed marvelous, yet it has become a mighty factor in the Masonic world, numbering forty-three Grand Chapters, about 3,000 Constituent Subordinate Chapters, with a membership of about 150,000. In Iowa there are 208 Subordinate Chapters, with a membership of 11,000, meeting around altars upon which is always kept the open Book of the Law, from which radiates as from the points of a star the following cardinal lessons:

"Fidelity to convictions;
Obedience to the demands of honor and justice;
Fidelity to kindred and friends;
Trustful faith and hope of immortal life;
Heroic endurance of the wrongs of persecution when demanded in defence of truth."

Represented by the following characters:

Adah, a lesson to the daughter;
Ruth, a lesson to the widow;
Esther, a lesson to the wife;
Martha, a lesson to the sister;
Electa, a lesson to the mother;

which embraces the "eligible relations" of the craft.

Four beloved characters mentioned in Holy Writ—one a type. Thus by types, symbols and beautiful ceremony is the best in woman and man, nourished, strengthened and developed. In the membership of this magnificent Order are to be found the serving Marthas, the humble and loving Marys, the one ministering to the temporal needs of mankind and womankind, the other demonstrating her devotion, loyalty and love by self-sacrifice, humility and sympathy, filling the world with the aroma of heaven.

For the Order: 'Tis morning. The sun is just above the hill. The dew sparkles in his light. The fragrance of night still lingers in the air. The birds have resumed their song. Life and activity abound. The vigor and hum of aroused life pulsates in the atmosphere. The day with all its opportunities and possibilities is to come. Humanity is passing through its redemptive and developing period.

Sisters: This order is a part of that "leavening" power, transforming, moulding, leading to that higher, better and purer existence, where all may enjoy peace, harmony and realized hope. And when night shall come and when you leave off the work, may there come ringing in your ears the words, "Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also which this woman hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her."

"I go when evening gilds the west,
I breathe the fond adieu,
But hope again, by fortune blest,
To spend an hour with you.
One hour with you, and you, and you,
Bright links in mystic chain—
Oh, may we oft these joys renew
And often meet again."

Among the Lodges.

GRAND CUSTODIAN'S LETTER.

CEDAR FALLS, IA., Feb. 15, 1899.

BROTHER GEIGER:—I have been intending to write you a few lines for the past few months, giving you and the brethren who read THE FREEMASON AND THE FEZ an inkling of the workings of the new plan adopted by the last Grand Lodge held at Council Bluffs; but for want of time I have been unable to carry out my full wishes, so up to this time you and the brethren have avoided any punishment at my hands. At the opening of the Masonic year, I did somewhat fear the working successfully of the new law, but thought it should have my best efforts to make it a success, and as each District School held has proven that so far as disseminating *the work* is concerned over the jurisdiction, it has proven more successful than the old method, and yet in one respect the old method is better than the new in arousing enthusiasm among the membership in the lodges. The system of holding these District Schools almost continuously in the months of the Fall, Winter and Spring has made the work, so far as the Traveling Custodian is concerned, more exacting and oppressive, as it draws so much upon the nervous forces, which sooner or later must give way. The attendance at the schools held have met my expectations, so far as numbers and interest manifested are concerned, and yet in many cases, nearby lodges have failed to send delegates, when it seemed as though they could have done so without much trouble, and might have received some benefit. The attendance has been thus far at least 50 per cent., which on account of the prevailing complaint, "La Grippe," and the severe cold weather, has satisfied me that the new law is proving successful. The following District Schools are yet to be held, viz:

Oskaloosa March 6th to 11th.
Cedar Rapids, March 20th to 25th.
Iowa City March 27th to April 1st.
Clinton April 3d to 8th.

In addition to the District Schools I have on my list from ten to fifteen calls from particular lodges, but they are so scattered over the state that it may be somewhat questionable whether I will be able to reach many of them before the spring work will be upon us. I shall continue to fill the time before Grand Lodge meets at Mason City as best I can, trusting that health and strength will hold out.

Yours Fraternally,
GEO. B. VAN SAUN,
Traveling Custodian.

WHERE IS THE AUTHORITY?

"The American Tyler" for January says: "There is a rule in Masonry which The Tyler believes to be little known. It is that any member of any lodge may object to the initiation, crafting, or raising of a candidate, at any time before the degree is conferred." With the interpretation of our contemporary we have no difference—but that "*any* member of *any* lodge," except of that to which the application is made may estop the advancement, is what canses us to ask the question at the head of this item. There is an obsolete section in our own (Iowa) Code to which we have often

intended to refer, which is of like unpopular tendency; it is, that *any* lodge having concurrent jurisdiction may take up and proceed with charges against a member of another lodge, if the lodge having jurisdiction fails to do so.

CUBAN GRAND LODGE.

The Grand Lodge of Cuba is to meet next month in Havana, and it will, no doubt, be a memorable event to hold a communication undisturbed by the awful menace of Spanish persecution. There will be some Iowa Masons present as visitors.

"WE AGREE." AND WE.

There is but one proper way to make a Mason, and that is upon his individual petition to a Lodge, passing the scrutiny of investigation and ballot, and receiving the degree with proper ceremonial.—Excerpt from *The Masonic Standard.*

Both Lodges at Muscatine are prosperous, with work to encourage their efforts.

Only 50 per cent. of the Masons living in California are affiliated there—the balance belong elsewhere or are non-affiliates. We wonder how it is in Iowa.

In England now it is as common to have "ladies nights" at Masonic lodges as it is in this country to have public installations of officers, accompanied by musical and literary entertainments.

The Royal Arch.

The Companions who are Templars are rolling into the Chapters—because the Grand Encampment says they must. Let them roll.

Marion Chapter No. 10, held their election of officers February 14th and J. N. North was chosen High Priest.

The Chapter at Corydon has been working. A "team" will be exalted soon.

Oelwein Chapter U. D. (Dispensation Dec. 20, 1898,) started out under flattering circumstances. The original membership of 18 is already greatly increased. Dr J. F. Cole is H. P., W. H. Burroughs, Sec'y.

The Directory of Chapters came to hand from Companion "Alf," our Grand Secretary, Feb. 17th.

The Council.

And now, Companions, the only way for us to get standing in Iowa is to get into a Council under the General Grand Council. See?

As yet (Feb. 22) we have no word of intended applications for local Councils, but we have no doubt there will be—or shall it be "buried" there? We hope not.

The Grand Custodians were kept busy waking Ahisher during the last days of February.

NO ABSORBED.

The Grand Council of Iowa has been dissolved, and the Councils in that jurisdictions are now subordinates of the General Grand Council and under its immediate control.—*Orphan's Friend.*

No, little one, absorbed by the Grand Chapter, years ago; and now, *divorced,* without alimony and without agreement as to the legitimacy of the children. Verily the Negroes and "us" have a time of it!

AT DUBUQUE.

Chapter No. 3 conferred the R. & S. degrees, Feb. 23, on 74 Companions, hailing from Oelwein, Waukon, Decorah, McGregor, El-Kader, Prince Edward Island and Dubuque. Grand King Hyatt and Custodians Turner, Hart and Laurence were there. A banquet and toasts followed.

In the Commanderies

GRAND ENCAMPMENT LAWS.

The following important changes were made in Knight Templar regulations by the Grand Encampment recently held in Pittsburg:

1. Petitioners for the orders must be affiliated members in good standing in both lodge and chapter.
2. Sir Knights who dimit from either lodge or chapter, and who voluntarity fail to affiliate with the same, or some other lodge or chapter, within six months thereafter, lose their rights and privileges as Knights Templar.
3. A dimitted Knight Templar may now petition for membership in any commandery, even without the jurisdiction of the State in which he resides.
4. Perpetual jurisdiction by a commandery over its rejected petitioner for the orders is denied. Such petitioner may, after three years, petition for the orders any commandery within whose jurisdiction he may then reside.
5. Petitions will hereafter be required to lay over two weeks, but can only be received or acted upon at stated conclaves.

6. In the roster of officers the Prelate is placed next after the Junior Warden.—*Masonic Home Journal.*

Neither of the first three officers of a Commandery can resign after installation. Re-elected officers need not be again installed.

Petitions for restoration from suspension if in the same commandery, need not lie over, but may be acted on at once—*Constellation.*

The Freemason of London closes a synopsis of the progress of the order of the temple in the United States with these very significant words, "Such progress is, to say the least, astounding."

Patmos Commandery No. 27, Marion, conducted the funeral with Templar honors of Sir Knight Robert Steen, on Sunday, February 26th, 1899. His death occurred in Walla Walla, Wash., where he had been for some years. He was originally knighted in Tancred Commandery, Maquoketa.

The Eastern Star.

There are a number of communities where the Stars should be shining. Why not?

The Brothers of Cedar Chapter 184, gave a banquet to the Sisters on February 20th. 150 were in attendance and a good time had.

Elmira Chapter 48, Keokuk, gave a social Feb. 21. The main features of amusement were progressive euchre and dancing. Refreshments were served. Prizes, a bisque doll and a box of shoe polish. Accompanying motto:

> "If you cannot shine at the head,
> Shine at the foot."
>
> —*Gate City.*

The Grand Lodge of North Carolina has endorsed the Order at its late communication, January, 1899.

There is developing much opposition to more than one term for the ranking officers.

No timid or fearful one need tremble for the "Adoptive Rite" in the presence of the other orders, like the "White Shrine of Jerusalem," the "Amaranth," etc., as nothing will ever take the place of the Star, and nothing else is intended or trying to.

The Scottish Rite.

The forty-seventh annual reunion of the A. A. S. R. Valley of Cincinnati, N. M. S., was held February 21-23—14th to 32d degrees.

The Des Moines bodies will have a reunion in April. So Registrar Cole now informs us.

Van Rensselaer, G. L. of Perfection, held its 43d annual Feb. 16th, 1899.

Fraternities.

The editor of this journal is looking for information which will be used for the common good in this department Address, Drawer E, Marion Iowa.

In Missouri they have taken steps to organize a State Fraternal Congress with mutual help and legislative protection in view.

GOOD FRATERNITY.

The latest addition to the numerous Catholic secret societies is the "Knights of Columbia." Its line is sick relief and death indemnity, and is a move to keep the votaries of that body within their own pale.

The Methodists have just organized an insurance company in Iowa—we understand for fire losses—among their people.

Nicaragua now has a Masonic Lodge under the Scottish register.

The Endowment Rank of the Knights of Pythias is the only Fraternal insurance body outside of the regular Fraternal Indemnity Orders, and all claims for so-called Masonic and Odd Fellows assessment companies to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Modern Woodmen are going to extend their jurisdiction to several states and to Canada.

If the secular press may be relied on, the Independent Order of Foresters are to increase rates—"because their reserve has depreciated *eighty per cent.* (!) in the values of securities. There are others.

We had a pleasant time Feb. 6th, visiting Hawkeye Lodge 81, K. P., of Corydon. A lively set of men they are, too.

The FREEMASON AND FEZ

IN THE INTEREST OF MASONRY, THE MYSTIC SHRINE AND THE ORDER OF ISIS.

Published Monthly

In the interest of Freemasonry in Iowa, and Fraternity generally.

JNO. WESTLEY GEIGER, K. T., 32°, EDITOR.

P. O. Drawer E, Marion, Iowa, for all business and exchanges.

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Address all correspondence to
JNO. WESTLEY GEIGER, Editor.
Drawer E, Marion, Iowa.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, MARCH, 1899.

GRAND GATHERINGS.

GRAND LODGES MEET.

Iowa, Mason City, June 6, 1899.

CROM BOWEN.....Des Moines.....GRAND MASTER
T. S. Parvin.....Cedar Rapids.....Grand Secretary

CONVOCATIONS, R. A. M.

Iowa, Grand, Red Oak, October 19th, 1899.
W. F. CLEVELAND...Harlan....GRAND HIGH PRIEST
Alf. Wingate.....Des Moines.....Grand Secretary

CONCLAVES K. T.

Grand Encampment, Louisville, Ky., 1901.
Iowa Grand, Templar Park, July 14, 1899.
G. W. BEVER.....Cedar Rapids..GRAND COMMANDER
Alf. Wingate.....Des Moines.....Grand Recorder

GRAND CHAPTERS O. E. S.

General Grand (U. S.,) 1901.
Iowa, Oct. 1899, Davenport.
MRS. M. B. RATHBUN..Clinton.....GRAND MATRON
W. H. Norris.....Manchester.....Grand Patron
Mrs. Maria Jackson...Council Bluffs.....Grand Recorder

THE MYSTIC SHRINE.

Imperial Council, Buffalo, N. Y., June 14, 1899.
ETHELBERT F. ALLEN..Kansas City..IMP. POTENTATE
Ben. W. Rowell.....Boston, Mass.....Recorder

El-Kahir Temple, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
E. I. ALDERMAN.....Marion.....POTENTATE
John Westley Geiger.....Marion.....Recorder

Do some kick? Well, we don't wonder at it. Note the change in our head gear.

With the attention possible we could not do better. Ours must eat and wear clothes. See?

Now, we hope to merit renewed assistance from thousands of our brothers who thought a "rich company" backed our enterprise.

We have assumed all responsibility, a couple of hundreds debt, and mean to put our best efforts into the work.

This paper will grow in size as the half dollars increase until our whole time—with a living—can be given to printing and publishing it.

Since our last number a considerable change has been made in our relations to this enterprise. The business of the last two years was, without compensation for the editor, over three hundred dollars on the wrong side of the ledger. To set the work straight we have assumed personally the responsibility of the obligations, taking most of the ownership therewith and determining to push the increase of circulation. This is already improving, and with the thousands of friends whom we have in Iowa and elsewhere, we expect to make this paper under its present name worth more to Masonry and worth more to its editor, manager and publisher (us). We could do much toward settling all outstanding scores if several hundred subscribers would pay up what they owe *and* continue. We need your help. We have a right to it and we ask it.

"The Trestle Board" is designing for a National Grand Lodge, and we say "Amen, so mote it be."

If Duncan of the "Standard" don't quit throwing lobster and milk into Plummer of the "Trestle Board," we'll take a lobster stew ourself.

So far the Grand Lodge of Virginia—Grand "Old Dominion!" has shown the noblest of examples in its legislation on the Washington question.

TO OUR EXCHANGES,

Will those of our exchanges heretofore sent to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, please change the address to Marion, Iowa, and oblige US? Several miles of street car riding will be saved and the exchanges reach us more promptly. Either change or cancel. See? tf

We are glad to note the success of the "District School" plan of our Grand Lodge of Iowa under the efficient guidance of P. G. M. Van Saun.

A GREAT RECORD.

The annual report of the National Masonic Accident Association shows a steady and remarkable increase in all its departments. Their total increase was $69,184. Claims paid, $36,017; agents commissions, $4,806; expenses of management, $17,940; cash in bank, $26,095; liabilities, $387,000; certificates issued, 5,290; insurance in force, $27,991,500.

SAME OVER HERE.

There is one thing about our masonic elections which hardly seems fair. A lot of fellows who never come to Lodge during the year appear on the scene election night and elect some renegade to office, and then kick if things do not go to their liking.—*Illinois Freemason.*

The Mystic Shrine

EL-KAHIR'S GREATEST.

Of all the meetings ever held by Iowa's youngest and biggest Temple, the one at Des Moines outstripped them all. February 15th, 1899, will be long remembered as the date when 131 Novices crossed the hot sands. Many of the details were usual. A fine parade and a splendid banquet after the work. The local committee, headed by the indomitable Noble F. O. Evans as chairman, deserves the highest praise. C. H. Austin comes in a good second as a hustler, and there were Coleman, Fleming, Wingate, Harbach, ach mein tines! The whole push was out of sight. 131 candidates were ennobled and three received by Demit. El-Kahir now has well over 1600 Nobles and 200 Daughters of Isis on her rolls. Over 600 were in attendance, among them a bevy of Nobles from Tangier, Omaha, who simply went to housekeeping in The Kirkwood and out-entertained us all. The McCartneys' made us as comfortable as possible in the The Kirkwood and merited the compliments paid. The C. & N. W. gave entire satisfaction in a special train both ways. Space forbids such mention as the case well deserves, but the Des Moines Nobles of all Temples may well feel proud of the high number-record made through them for El-Kahir and the Order in Iowa.

"The Fraternal Record," a new paper of Washington, D. C., gives our P. I. P. H. Dingman a complimentary notice, and urges Washington as the place for the Imperial Council in 1900.

Imperial Potentate E. F. Allen, who is also Grand Master of Masons in the State of Missouri, journeyed all the way from Kansas City to pay a personal tribute in Mecca Temple to the memory of the late Augustus W. Peters. There could be no better illustration than this of the strong paternal feeling which cements the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.—*Masonic Standard.*

BADGE FOUND.

Mr. Rufus C. Ross, of Bussey, Iowa, found a Shrine Badge in Des Moines next day after the meeting of Feb. 15. Write to him about it.

Moila Temple, St. Joseph, Mo., created twenty Nobles on Nov. 23. Imperial Potentate Allen was with them.

The Imperial Potentate has visited over fifteen Temples of the order up to date. He's a goer, and he's a stayer, too.

Kaaba Temple held a meeting at Davenport February 17th.

Murat Temple gave a social entertainment in January, with a concert by the "Boys Brigade Band," followed with dancing and refreshments.

It was our pleasure to meet Noble Andrew Pabst, of Atchison, Kan.,—a member of Abdallah—in Ottumwa lately.

At Corydon, Iowa, we found a dozen of the livest Nobles in the State. Two candidates from Des Moines came from there.

Mecca Temple will erect a monument to Past Potentate A. W. Peters, by one dollar offerings from its own members only.

Again it comes down the rope that Tucson, Ari., Nobles are going to Mexico to *create* Diaz and other Mexicans. They say $10,000 in U. S. money has been subscribed for expenses. The cliff dwellers will not be the only Turks to be there. Watch our smoke.

Past I. P. Dingman installed Boumis officers in January.

Nobles who get this journal should not forget the "Romp" of the Imperial Kids in Buffalo next June. Representatives and ex-Reps are eligible.

Nor should they forget that HALF A DOLLAR now will do us a dollar's worth of good. Say, Nobles, try it.

Our Dead.

We will consider it a favor if our readers will send us the names and date of deaths among the Masonic Family.—Editor.

Comp. J. A. Hawley, Dixon, Ill., Dec. 30, 1898.

Comp. Rev. H. G. Perry, Chicago, Ill., Jan. 16, 1899.

Sir Robert Steen, Walla Walla, Wash., Feb. 20, 1899. Buried at Marion Feb. 26, '99.

BOOK TABLE.

From W. Bro. G. W. Atkinson we have the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of W. Va. for 1898.

From Sister Carrie M. Perkins comes the Proceedings of the G. C. O. E. S. of Indian Territory, held Aug., 1898.

We were unpleasantly surprised to receive notice that the "Freemasons' Repository" had discontinued—lack of support was largely to blame. Its death is Masonry's loss.

A neat Masonic Directory for 1899 from St. Joseph, Mo., comes to hand and its perfect.

OWN YOUR APRON.

In another column will be found an advertisement of the Pettibone's of Cincinnati, announcing one of their usual Spring Bargain Offers.

The Pettibone method of advertising their large business offers in this case an opportunity of which every Mason should take advantage, and secure for himself a genuine lambskin apron to be kept as his own individual property, for the prices asked seem to be unusually reasonable.

One of these aprons is perfectly plain—as it is first presented to the E. A. The other is beautifully embellished with the "All-Seeing-Eye" and the Square and Compass, surrounded by a garland composed of the leaves of the plants bearing corn, wine and oil, and represent as we are instructed, the wages of a Free Mason. This apron is further ornamented with wide blue satin border all around.

Our information is that these two aprons are to be sold at the prices given in the advertisement, for a limited time, and every brother should take advantage of this opportunity and secure for himself a really fine and handsome apron at snch a low price as does not often fall to our good fortune.

There are a good many men who are afraid that their Masonic identity may not be readily recognized, and for this reason sign their names as Jno Jones, K. T., or 32°. It may look quite big to the uninitiated, but I have a much higher regard for the man who does not publish his Masonic standing in this vain-glorious manner.—*Illinois Freemason.*

It is not the knowledge of lodge room forms that distinguishes the true Mason so much as his good deeds in his associations with his fellow-men. A true Mason is a true man and is distinguishable as much outside the official confines as within. The mere lodge room Mason is a blot upon the fraternity, for his constant attendance at the meetings is sure to be known to his friends and acquaintances, and when they see that his life has no higher aims than other men, they are not slow to conclude that the practical education of the order is not what they had always believed.—*Boston Ideas.*

A true brother or friend is not the man to hear your integrity assailed or your honor questioned without speaking in your favor, but content himself by "bearing you the news." There is no mark of friendship in that, but, on the contrary, an evidence of cowardice thoroughly in keeping with his dwarfed ideas of honor as brotherly love. A true friend will stand up for you under any and all cicumstances, and see you righted, if you have been wronged. He will first place himself on record with your assailants, and then take the matter up with you.—*Trestle Board.*

In Honolulu the brethren in voting on applicants for the degrees, hold the ball up so that all can see it before it is deposited, and in one of the lodges in Cairo, Egypt, they go behind a curtain in a corner of the lodge room and deposit their ballot. The manner of balloting is as far apart as the localities are distant.—*Texas Freemason.*

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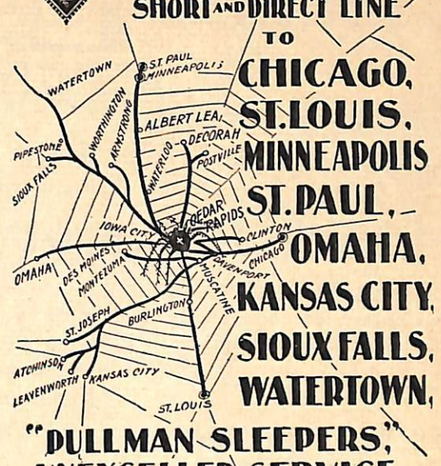

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